

Kariya language

Kariya or **Vinahə** (Vìnà Hè), is an Afroasiatic language spoken in a cluster of villages near the Stone Age archaeological site of Kariya Wuro in Ganjuwa LGA, Bauchi State, Nigeria. The ethnic group is known as **Wiihə**.^[3]

The Wiihə people have a highly rich and complex ritual culture that includes elaborate masquerades, a circumcision ceremony known as *sár*, a ritual calendar, and so on.^[3]

Distribution

Speakers live in the two main settlements of Kariya Gyada and Tulu. There are also speakers in the nearby villages of Sabon Kariya and Sabon Tulu. The settlement of Dutsen Giwa used to have Vinahə speakers, but it is now Hausa-speaking.^[3]

Clans

Wiihə clans and their respective founders and shrines:^[3]

Clan	Founder	Shrine
Vàràyá	Tákúshiyà	uses the Kúlkùl shrine
Kúlkùl	Yàkáù	Jambula
Njálgá	Zàmàni	incorporated into Kàryà
Kàryà	Ààyà	Faduwan
Wèèmà	Gwàlàbà	Dunguzun
lìrwá	Jàngàlá	incorporated into Vàràyá

Kariya	
Vìnà Hè	
Native to	Nigeria
Region	Ganjuwa LGA, Bauchi State
Native speakers	(2,000 cited 1995) ^[1]
Language family	Afro-Asiatic <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chadic<ul style="list-style-type: none">West Chadic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bade–Warji<ul style="list-style-type: none">Warji (B.2)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kariya
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	kil
Glottolog	kari1316 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/kari1316) ^[2]

People	Wiihə
Language	Vìnà Hè

References

1.

Kariya (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/kil/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2.

Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Kariya" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/kari1316>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3.

Blench, Roger. 2012. *Linguistic and cultural background to the North Bauchi region and the Wiihə people* (<http://www.rogerblench.info/Archaeology/Africa/Background%20to%20the%20North%20Bauchi%20area.pdf>)

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